

## **STIC-ILL**

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Pietropaolo et al., (1991) Diabetes 40:1A (Abstract # 2). Thanks.



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 Passariello, N., 663  
 Passmann, R., 1138  
 Pastore, M.R., 498  
 Pastorek, D., 353  
 Pata, P., 2043  
 Patel, A., 1158  
 Patel, B., 308  
 Patel, N., 6, 1698  
 Patel, P., 1183  
 Patel, V., 2039  
 Pathan, F., 1162  
 Pátkay, J., 1874  
 Pato, P., 1626  
 Patrick, A., 1601  
 Patrick, A.W., 1049, 2169, 2183  
 Patrick, S.L., 1251  
 Patten, R., 1705  
 Patterson, C.C., 1277  
 Patterson, D., 1082  
 Patti, L., 2198  
 Paul, F., 1872  
 Paulsen, E.P., 1279  
 Pavlić-Renar, I., 1415  
 Pavlik, V., 1429, 2164  
 Pavliuk, P.M., 1087  
 Pawagi, S., 1193  
 Paynter, L.N., 1244  
 Peak, M., 729  
 Peakman, M., 587, 895, 918  
 Pearce, R.B., 208  
 Pearson, R.E., 1596  
 Pecoraro, R.E., 1408, 1412, 2209  
 Peddicord, M., 2233  
 Pedersen, M.M., 1764  
 Pedersen, R.O., 601  
 Pedneault, L., 1814  
 Pedromigo-Marino, A., 1402  
 Pehar, D., 1415  
 Pek, S.B., 315, 334, 608, 929  
 Pelikánová, T., 244, 996  
 Pelkonen, R., 1817  
 Pena, J., 290  
 Peña-Varela, J., 2117  
 Peñaloza, J.B., 1679  
 Pencharz, P.B., 773  
 Pendsey, S., 1353  
 Peniche, J., 1741  
 Penno, G., 1291  
 Penny, M., 554, 557, 562  
 Penttilä, P., 916, 115, 116  
 Percheron, C., 1283, 1707  
 Perdereau, D., 9  
 Pereira, A.B., 1337  
 Perentesis, G., 1855  
 Perez, A., 761, 1572, 1819  
 Perez, J.E., 2090  
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 Permutt, M.A., 572, 628, 643, 1897  
 Perng, J.C., 437  
 Perret, G., 54  
 Perriello, G., 626, 1220  
 Persaud, S.J., 695, 697  
 Perseghin, G., 21, 1005, 1012  
 Persson, B., 1687, 1757  
 Persson, L., 81, 1686  
 Persson, L.M., 1346  
 Pescovitz, M., 894  
 Peshock, R.M., 124  
 Pessin, J.E., 447, 1191  
 Pessino, A., 338  
 Petäys, T., 1110  
 Peters, J.R., 969, 1748  
 Petersen, K.E., 1265  
 Peterson, C., 594  
 Peterson, C.M., 208, 1871, 2230  
 Peterson, D., 1945  
 Peterson, J.S., 2142  
 Peterson, L., 461  
 Peterson, R.G., 871, 883  
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 Phillips, L.A., 381  
 Phillips, L.S., 335, 674, 671  
 Phillips, P., 1435, 1458, 1642  
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 Piatti, P.M., 58, 1937  
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 Pichel, C., 1365  
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 Pieri, M., 818, 1515, 1586, 1673  
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 Pietravallo, P., 1780, 2203  
 Pietropaolo, M., 2, 191  
 Piette, C., 2053  
 Piga, A., 158  
 Pignatelli, D., 460, 849  
 Pillay, V., 2128  
 Pillion, D.J., 519, 1914  
 Pillon, B., 2185  
 Pina-Cabral, J.M., 1532  
 Pinal, C., 6  
 Ping, H.C., 1413  
 Ping, Z.X., 236  
 Pinget, M., 1135, 1799  
 Pinheiro, M.F.M.C., 915  
 Pinies, J., 296  
 Pintor, M.P., 2036  
 Pipeleers, D.G., 707, 596  
 Piraphatdist, T., 170, 652  
 Pisu, E., 1491, 1723  
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 Pitts, K., 1221  
 Piwernetz, K., 813, 1440, 1926  
 Plasman, P.O., 321  
 Platanisiotis, D., 2222  
 Platilová, H., 72, 2008  
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 Plehn, R.J., 927  
 Plourde, G., 795  
 Ploybutr, S., 170, 652  
 Podar, T., 1253, 1266  
 Podolsky, S., 1702  
 Pogátsa, G., 1374, 1774  
 Poinso, D., 1135  
 Pointer, R.H., 358  
 Poirier, J.L., 2120  
 Poirier, P., 1585  
 Poisson, D., 798  
 Poirout, V., 1602  
 Polak, J., 1311  
 Polak, M., 570  
 Polanco, R., 1797  
 Policicchio, D., 1533  
 Pollare, T., 1473  
 Pollet, R.J., 165, 335  
 Polonsky, K., 52  
 Polonsky, W., 2156  
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 Pontiroli, A.E., 58, 288, 1937  
 Ponzani, P., 1310  
 Poorters, A.M., 1091  
 Pope-Cordle, J., 1400  
 Poppi, C., 1747  
 Porcellati, F., 626, 1784  
 Porcelli, G., 1749  
 Porcellini, A., 627  
 Porciatti, V., 1329, 1330  
 Poretela, E., 1651  
 Pories, W.J., 630, 1711  
 Porte, D., Jr., 24, 62, 273, 1498  
 Porter, R.E., 883  
 Portha, B., 708  
 Portocarrero, M.C., 849  
 Posadas, R.C., 1560  
 Poser, H., 1657  
 Poskus, E., 128  
 Possa, G., 498  
 Postic, C., 354

1  
Carboxypeptidase H is an Autoantigen of the ICA and is Expressed on the Cell Surface of Islet Cells. Alvin C. Powers, Sarah Bowen, Sandra West, Nashville, TN.

The islet molecules targeted by the islet cell autoantibodies (ICA) of Type I diabetes are incompletely characterized. To identify the protein targets of the ICA, we have created a human islet cell  $\lambda$ GT 11 cDNA library from human insulinomas and screened this library with ICA sera. We have identified 8 clones which react with only an ICA serum and not with normal sera. One of the clones reacts with two/six ICA sera and the cDNA insert has been analyzed by DNA sequencing and RNA analysis. This 1.4 kb cDNA has greater than 80% homology with the rat carboxypeptidase H (CPH) cDNA sequence and likely encodes human CPH. RNA analysis with the labeled cDNA detects a 2.5 kb mRNA species in poly-A RNA from human insulinomas and RIN 1046-38, Beta TC-1, and alpha TC-6 cell lines. CPH mRNA is also found in poly-A RNA from human kidney, adrenal, and testes, but not from liver, duodenum, spleen, or fibroblasts.

CPH is a proinsulin processing enzyme within the beta cell secretory granule and exists as a membrane and soluble form. To determine if CPH is expressed on the cell surface and thus accessible to the immune system, viable Beta TC-1 cells were stained with an anti-CPH serum and cell surface fluorescence analyzed by flow cytometry. At least 25% of the Beta TC-1 cells were positive for cell surface staining for CPH when analyzed three hours after the addition of the anti-CPH serum. These results suggest that CPH is an autoantigen of the ICA and is expressed on the cell surface of islet cells.

3  
Cloning and Expression of Islet Cell Autoantigens, D. RABIN,\* S. PLEASIC, R. PALMER-CROCKER, P.M.M. RAE\*, J. SHAPIRO, J. BARBOSA\*, W. KNOWLES, C. ROWE and J. OLES, West Haven, CT

A DNA cloning approach was taken to define, purify, and characterize islet cell antigens that are recognized by Type I diabetic sera. Such antigens could be useful in diagnosis of pre-Type I diabetes, and could help provide markers for the study of autoimmune aspects of the disease.

A cDNA library was generated in bacteriophage  $\lambda$ -gt11 from human islet material (provided by P. Lacy and D. Scharp, St. Louis MO) and screened with sera from newly diagnosed diabetics. Plaques that were reactive with the diabetic sera were expressed in *E. coli* and immune precipitated with diabetic and normal sera.

Clone ICA512 was recognized by 16/32 (50%) diabetic sera and 0/20 (0%) normals by immunoprecipitation and 41/104 (39%) diabetic and 1/61 (1.6%) normals by ELISA reactivity.

Sequence analysis of ICA512 reveals partial homology to human LCA (CD45).

Preliminary results with two other antigens that show diabetic specificity will also be presented.

2  
Utilization of a human  $\lambda$ gt11 islet library to identify novel autoantigens associated with Type I diabetes. M. PIETROPAOLO, L. CASTANO, E. RUSSO, \*A. POWERS, O. BARNEA, GS.EISENBARTH. Boston, MA, \*Nashville, TN.

We have in the past identified with sera from prediabetic relatives a clone producing carboxypeptidase H [termed DG-1 (codes for amino acid 199 to 335 of carboxypeptidase H)] in a rat cDNA library. Recently we have utilized a cDNA expression library (A. Permutt, St. Louis, MO) from human pancreas islets to screen for clones reacting with our rat carboxypeptidase H probe and novel autoantigens. Our rat islet probe hybridized with 23 human carboxypeptidase reactive clones after screening  $25 \times 10^5$  plaques which are being sequenced. In addition utilizing antibodies from prediabetic relatives we have recently identified in this library what we believe is a novel islet antigen. This clone, termed PM-1, reacts with 2 out of 6 ICA positive relatives screened to date, whereas none of 10 control sera react. The labeled PM-1 insert detects a 2.0 Kb mRNA species in total RNA from a human insulinoma, a human islet carcinoid cell line (BON-1), and 3 rodent islet cell lines (RIN 1046-38, BTC-1,  $\alpha$ TC-6). No hybridization was detected in total RNA from 3 human, non-islet cell lines (HepG2-hepatoma, HeLa-fibroblast, JEG-choriocarcinoma), suggesting that the PM-1 clone reacts with an islet protein expressed in all human and rat pancreatic islet cell lines and human insulinoma. Initial sequence shows a 252 bp open reading frame coding for 84 amino acids without significant homologies to known sequences in Gene Bank and containing two regions of dibasic aminoacids. In summary autoreactive molecules can readily be isolated from a human  $\lambda$ gt11 expression library and we believe will contribute to characterize the family of autoantigens of prediabetics and should facilitate identification of novel islet molecules.

4  
Characterization Of The Antigen Recognized By The Islet-Specific T Cell Clone BDC-2.5, BARBARA BERGMAN and KATHRYN HASKINS, Denver, CO.

Disease transfer studies with the islet-specific T cell clone BDC-2.5 show it is able to accelerate the disease process in young, unirradiated nonobese diabetic (NOD) mice resulting in hyperglycemia by six weeks of age. BDC-2.5 was derived from a newly diabetic NOD mouse and is of the CD4 phenotype. In *in vitro* assays, BDC-2.5 proliferates and makes IL-2 in response to NOD antigen presenting cells and islet cell antigen isolated from a number of mouse strains. In addition, the mouse beta tumor cell lines  $\beta$ TC3 and NIT-1 can serve as sources of antigen. Islet cell membranes, as well as whole islet cells and islet cell lysates, can stimulate BDC-2.5, suggesting a cell surface antigen. We are currently investigating the ability of anti-islet cell antibodies to inhibit the proliferative response of BDC-2.5 to islet cell antigen. We have identified at least three antibody reagents that appear to react with the antigen recognized by the T cell clone.